

A naval line in forged has been struck in Melbourne in the shape of the forgery of passage tickets by P. & O. and other mail steamer lines, the tickets being sold cheap under the pretence that the holder of the ticket has been pre-empted, at the last moment from using it.

The first public enquiry about the Duke of York after Her Royal Highness's confinement, which will take place at White Lodge, will be at Leeds. They will visit this town during the last week in September for the purpose of opening the new buildings connected with the Yorkshire College.

An elderly man, who occupied a wretched apartment in the Rue du Bist, Paris, having died, the police made the usual search and discovered in the room in which he lived 1500 francs in gold and silver. The deceased had suffered from a long pain from cancer in the stomach, but had refused to call in a medical man on the ground that he was too poor.

Vice-Admiral Sir John Hawkins, commanding the British 2nd Division, has been invalided from his visiting Boston, made a statement to a number of Press reporters in which he said: "The distances which parts England and America lessens every day. The ties which unite them grow every day stronger. Against this silent and inevitable drift of things the spirit of narrow isolation on either side of the Atlantic is struggling to hold its own, but to me, at least, the two branches of the Empire may remain for ever separate political entities. It is likely, though, that the older of them may again break in twain, and that the English in the Pacific may assert as distinct a national life as the two English peoples of either side of the Atlantic. From the time we bear future a real and highest expression of the power of our country and may guarantee shading peace and prosperity throughout the world."

Mr. Thomas Biscoe, having been asked to give an opinion on the Invasion of Abyssinia, which was referred to by Lord Rosebery at the Royal Academy banquet, says: "It is gratifying the interest of many to put up these expansive boards so closely, and my friends, I am sorry to say, have erred in this respect in some few instances, which will have to be rectified as my opportunity arises. They are of course entitled to differ, and I do not mind it at all, as I believe larger ones describe a lively view to me. And this reminds me how differently landscape affects individuals. I was about two years ago having lunch at the hotel at the head of Lake Constance, and a lady and gentleman were at the same table. Their conversation was evidently directed towards me, and I was interested when she remarked to her companion, 'See my dear, that is the Czar of Russia,' and his answer, which was brief, bears out my argument, for it ran, 'What! that wretched thing?'

That the Duke of Dorsette's marriage was the crowning reward of a life's patient silent devotion was generally known in society. It has been reported, however, to a lady to make public the circumstances. Miss Mary Spencer Warren tells us that the Duke of Devonshire had been a member of the Duke of Dorsette's household. He was the only son of the Duke of Dorsette, and he had been brought up on the one hand for the other, and had been manifested beyond the limits of respectful propriety. To see her was to love her. She was graphically shown in the romance of her first marriage. The Duke of Manchester saw her with her father, the Count von Alten, in their box at the Opera. He was at once madly in love. "He waited outside the box, and, on an introduction, and his passion so worked on the beautiful girl that she snatched him within a day of their first meeting. Were there ever more romantic loves of a Duchess? It is phenomenal for a woman to have been the wife of two dukes. How much more astonishing that two duchesses should have been the wives of the irresistible landmarks of youth at a few days' notice, while the older was rewarded after 30 years' silent and unacknowledged (because impossible) courtship. Miss Warren tells us in her sketch that only the Queen, the Prince of Wales, the Marquess of Salisbury, and a few other distinguished persons knew of the Duke's marriage before it took place.

Anatole Leibesman relates the case of a monk who would fain or, seeing a rose, while she never quitted his cell at the monastery, while that flower was blooming. Or this, however, is an archaic and archaic legend. Vincent the great painter, who would sit upon a going suddenly into a room in which roses were blooming, even though he did not see them. Valerius was an army officer who was frequently thrown into violent convulsions by coming in contact with the little flower known as the pink. He was always in a feverish state, on the case of Vincent, the painter, who was also, on the case of a lady, forty-six years of age, and a very bold and hearty, who, if present when roses were being held for any purpose, would be seized with violent fits of coughing, swelling of the nose, and partial loss of reason for the ensuing twenty-four hours. Writing of these peculiar cases, and of the monk Montague remarks that he had known of a man of double course who would rather have a shower of cabbages than look at an apple. In Zimmerman's writings there is an account of a lady who could not bear to touch either silk or satin, and would almost faint if, by accident she should happen to touch the velvety skin of a man. The reason was, that a man who would faint upon hearing the "wick" of a bell across the floor, and of another with a natural abhorrence of hawks. Hippocrates of old tells of one Nicanor, who would always swoon at hearing the sound of a flute. Evaro, the great Englishman, could not bear to see a lunar eclipse, and was completely collapsed upon such scenes as and Venus, who had killed hundreds of wild boars, would faint if he but got a glimpse of a roasted pig.

SHIPPING REPORTS.

The British steamer *Pekin*, from Amoy 29th June, had strong S.W. wind with heavy easterly swell and heavy weather throughout.

The British steamer *Pekin*, reports that she left Tamsui 28th, 3.40 p.m., Bar. 25.65, with moderate and increasing to strong N.E. wind and waves, high and clear, to Oceania Light. Bar. 26.62, falling steadily; cloudy and similar weather. At 10.30 p.m. left Amoy 29th, 4 a.m. Bar. 26.54, weather moderate and variable S.W. winds to noon; moderate S.W. wind and moderate sea. Bar. 26.50 rising steadily; fine and clear weather to port.

The British steamer *Swallow*, from Tamsui 28th June, 4.30 a.m., Bar. 25.65, had strong N.W. to N.E. winds, considerable sea and cloudy weather from Tamsui to Amoy. From Amoy to Swallow, threatening weather, anchored in a very cut harbour and experienced the break of a very equal weather throughout the night. At 4 a.m. wind and pressure had moderate variable winds, compass S.W. winds 11° to 15° Swallow. From Swallow had strong S.W. winds, considerable sea, and fine weather to port.

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AMONG SHIPPING.

Arrivals.

21. Rio, German steamer from Hongkong.

22. Formosa, British steamer from Tamsui.

23. Fokian, British steamer from Swallow.

24. Hsien, British steamer from Foochow.

25. Tsoon, Chinese steamer from Shanghai.

26. Nanking, British steamer from Foochow.

27. Hsien, British steamer from Foochow.

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